MilAtari Limited Edition

This Month:

General Meeting

Sat., Oct. 20th, 12:00 Noon

Greenfield Park Lutheran Church

1236 S. 115th St., West Allis

Exec. Board Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 28th, 7:00pm

Shakey's

9638 W. National Ave.

Next Month:

General Meeting

Sat., **Nov. 24th**, 12:00 Noon

Greenfield Park Lutheran Church

1236 S. 115th St., West Allis

Inside:

Michelle Gross

From the President

MilAtari hosts Open House

Now that those long summer days are behind us, it is time to wipe those cobwebs off your keyboards and get ready to do some serious computing. Our October meeting will be just the thing to get you back into your hobby, no matter where your interests lie.

The demonstrations scheduled for this month include 8-bitters Joe Sliker and Terry Browning showing off their favorite programs including Text Pro. Terry is also a CSS dealer and will have some good deals for the 8-bit members.

On the ST side, we will be showing off the power of the ST with Bob Desmarais of Taylor Computers demonstrating midi capabilities, Doug Raeburn will have Desktop Publishing programs running, David Gross will have Dyna-CADD for all you designers out there, and Carl Verbanac will show the best of the PD, which of course will come from our own PD library, and be available for purchase.

With all these demonstrations going on at once, we will begin promptly at noon, and continue through 1:30 PM. From 1:30 - 2:00 we'll hold our business meeting, and afterwards the demonstrations will resume. We will have coffee, soda and snacks for all present. Door prizes will be given away every 1/2 hour beginning at 12:30, and include lottery tickets, a modem, and some software. This is one meeting you can't afford to miss.

We are asking members to help us out with this meeting by bringing a favorite snack to share....your special dip, some nuts, or just plain chips will do fine. We are advertising with flyers all over town, and letters are going out to old members inviting them to rejoin, so please join us in making them feel welcome. We hope to expand the membership base at this Open House.

Fall is a busy time for our friends in Lake County as well. LCACE has planned an AtariFest for Sunday, November 11. Plan on attending for some good deals on new and used computer goods. Information can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, and for tickets, see Armin. He is handling the tickets this month for the Fest. To get the reduced, bargain rate of $2.00, you must buy them in advance through a user group. Also, if you want to rent a table, you must do so through MilAtari, so see a board member for more information.

Atari Corp. is gearing up for Comdex, which opens the day after the LCACE AtariFest, out in Las Vegas. According to Bob Brodie, the TT will be shown there, and will be in the warehouse ready to ship. In fact, everything Atari has at Comdex will be available for immediate sale. The TT is the 32 mhz model, and Atari is also working on a new desktop for the TT, similar to NeoDesk and DC Desktop. This is great news for the Atari community. I wish Atari the best of success at this coming show, as it appears to be a possible turning point for them, at the very least in terms of confidence in the future of Atari Corp. That is how it's viewed from where the users and user groups sit.....

See you at the meeting!

Michelle

MilAtari Ltd.
The Milwaukee Area Atari Users Group
Post Office Box 14038
West Allis, WI 53214

Membership in MilAtari Ltd. is open to all individuals and families interested in personal computing. Annual dues are $20.00 for individuals, $25.00 per family and includes a one year subscription to this newsletter and access to club libraries. Membership applications may be obtained at the monthly meeting or by writing to the club Secretary at the above address.

MilAtari Ltd. Officers

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VP - 8 Bit	Bruce Rahlf	483-0464
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8-Bit PD	David Glish	784-9053
ST PD	Dennis Wilson	546-0282
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ST PD Asst.	Bob Bobinger	466-9341
Copyright	Lee Musial	327-5376
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Copyrt. Asst.	Mark Jones	
Publications	Everett Rantanen	327-4393

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News *Flash*

An article in Entertainment Weekly reports that in "The New Lassie" we will witness America's first computer literate canine. Lassie will work at a computer terminal, pushing a mouse around with her nose to call up data. Tim Rettig, who played Jeff on the old TV series and wrote the script for the upcoming episode says "It's a pretty plausible script, I think. I mean, we don't have Lassie working with any complicated software or anything."

[Ed: Yeah right Tim, I don't even want to think of the possible implications here! Actually, maybe we could just ask Lassie to attend our Beginners SIG....]

And speaking of news flashes, did you know that the new TV series "Flash" is powered by the Atari ST? My sources say production of this new series is being done with the ST. Not bad...

From our neighbors

L.C.A.C.E News

Chicago Area AtariFest Announced

Lake County Atari Computer Enthusiasts are proud to announce "Chicago AtariFest" to be held Sunday, November 11th, 1990 at the American Legion Gurnee Post located at W. Grand and IL. Rt. 21 (just 1 mile east of I-94). The show will open to the public at 10:00 AM and will run until 4:00 PM. General admission will be $2.00 in advance, $3.00 at the door. Children under 6 will be admitted free with a paying adult.

All paid admissions will have a chance at one of several valuable door prizes to be awarded at various times during the day. For more information and advance ticket sales, commercial and individual exhibition space availability, as well as general show information, please contact LCACE at P.O. Box 8788, Waukegan, IL 60079-8788.

A special show message base is available on the Python BBS, 708-680-5105, 300/1200/2400, 24 hrs.

Vendors and Developers! A great way to build awareness of your products is to hold a product seminar at the Chicago AtariFest. Please contact the show organizers at the above address for more information on participating in a show seminar.
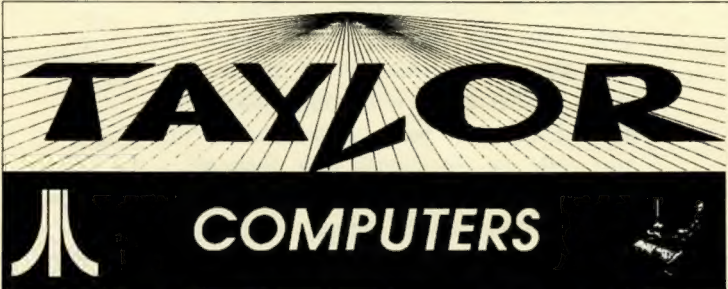
See you there!

Dennis Wilson

ST PD Update

MilAtari Ltd. ST Public Domain Library Disks are available to members at a price of $3.50 per disk, and to non-members at $5 per disk. The charge for the disks covers the cost of the media and handling, with all proceeds going to support the activities activities of MilAtari Ltd.

Some of the programs on these disks have been released as shareware and are so documented in the programs themselves. MilAtari Ltd. supports the shareware concept and you are encouraged to make donations to the individual authors should you find their programs useful.

The MilAtari PD Libraries are intended to provide a repository for useful and interesting programs, and each file is tested before inclusion on the disk. We believe that each file is worthy of your consideration. No warranty is expressed nor implied, however, as to their content or usability. Defective disks will be gladly replaced. These disks are made available for sale at the monthly club meeting and may be ordered in advance by posting a message in the Library Lounge room on the club BBS. Other arrangements only by prior contact with the ST PD Librarian. We do not mail order disks at this time. Librarians of other clubs are encouraged to contact our ST Librarian concerning trading of programs in their respective libraries.

DISK 281 - BOOT DISK COMPANION

A selection of accessories and programs for the AUTO folder on your boot disk. The disk is meant to be a companion to the MilAtari Desktop Disk (Disk 100), with additional programs for that disk if you wish to have a double-sided boot disk. This disk is a stand-alone, ready-to-run disk, however.

AREACODE: Area Code Ver 2.1 - A utility which, when entering a 3-digit area code, will give you the state in which it is located, plus list some of the principal cities in that area code. You may also type in the name of a state, and it will give you all of the area codes in that state. With either input method, the time zone of the location of the area code are the current time there is given. The utility may be run as a program or as an accessory by simply renaming the extension appropriately. This version apparently fixes some bugs found in Ver 2.0.

DESKFMT: Desktop Formatter - A full function disk formatter and copier. The most important difference between this and other similar programs is a radically improved and unique 11 sector format. (Librarian's Note: 11 sector formats may be useful in some situations, but it is not recommended.) Disks may be formatted out to 82 tracks, and write verify may be turned on or off.

DESKFSEL: A program for turning on or off the call item selector in the above accessory.

DIARY_18: This program is simply a text editor accessory that opens up a half-screen window which you can move up or down on your screen, and toggle between full and half size. Being a desk accessory, it is available from within any other GEM program that has a menu bar, so you can get to it whenever you want to jot something down or view or make changes in a file without going to get your favorite word processor or disk sector editor. Twenty-six changes have been added to this version, including making it more compatible with Hotwire, Quikstart, and Flash.

EDHAK_18: EdHak is exactly the same as Diary, but has the two added features of (1) being able to edit disk sectors (with which you could ruin your hard drive or floppies by changing the boot sector, FAT, or directory), and (2) being able to edit your ST's memory (which can merely cause bombs on your screen). Enhancements to this version are being able to turn part of your ST's memory into an edit buffer, and this accessory can now be used as a disk editor.

FR_QUICK: Fat Rat Quick Utilities - An accessory which 1) provides a means to do a reset from the keyboard, 2) provides a mouse accelerator, and 3) provides a means for reversing the background and text colors.

MACCEL3: Mouse Accelerator 3 - The official mouse accelerator program from Atari. Run from the AUTO folder, it provides mouse acceleration upon bootup. It can be configured by running it from the desktop and making appropriate menu choices.

NEWICONS: With this AUTO folder program, you can now change your desktop disk icons to whatever you want. Other commercial and PD programs try this but they are usually complete desktop replacements or only allow one new icon for all your drives, getting rid of the file cabinet but still not giving your drives visual distinction. This program allows you to replace any disk with any icon at any time without locking out other important programs (like Hotwire!) or eating up valuable

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RAM with lots of extra reworks of features the desktop already handles pretty well. You can change your trash can icon as well, and changing a drive's icon is as easy as changing its name.

PINHED17:   PinHead Ver 1.7 - An AUTO folder program which will drastically reduce the amount of time it takes to boot your computer, especially if you have several AUTO programs and desk accessories installed. Every program that runs after PinHead will load into the computer faster than you ever thought possible! And this speedup is not only evident at bootup time, but programs will load much faster even when they are run from the GEM desktop or a shell such as HotWire.

POOLFIX4:   Pool Fix 4 (3/29/90) - There is a rare bug in Rainbow TOS 1.4 and STe TOS 1.6 involving the way GEMDOS handles its internal memory. You probably have never seen this bug, and if you use this patch program, you never will.

Q_TEXT: An AUTO folder program that optimizes the text display routines built in to the ST. After the program is installed, screen redraw speed will be significantly improved for any program that uses the text blit routines to output text.

RAMLOAD: An AUTO folder program that automatically loads designated files into a ram disk upon bootup. If the computer is given a warm reset, the files are not copied again into the ramdisk, as they will still be there. The files to be copied are designated in an .INF file created with a word processor.

RAMPLUS: RAMplus - An AUTO folder program which is a combination ramdisk and print spooler with a few other features included. The ramdisk is very fast and also uses the smallest amount of memory for a given ramdisk size. The spooler is an automatic design that uses available ramdisk memory, and thus does not require a separate memory buffer. The ramdisk and spooler contents will stay in memory through screen resolution changes, and system reset. It will increase the storage of all your floppy disks by 2K.

RESTORE: You have probably experienced the problem of returning to the desktop from a drawing or a crashed program and the colors have been messed up. This program simply returns the colors back to their default

values, and it works in all three resolutions. It may be run as an accessory or a program by simply renaming the extender.

STARSTRK: Star-Struck - A screen saver AUTO folder program with a difference. Instead of just blanking your screen after three minutes, it smoothly fades it to black, and then fills it with a repeating burst of stars exploding from a central point. The stars are in color when the program is run on a color monitor.

TOS14FIX: An AUTO folder program which fixes some bugs found in TOS 1.4.

DISK 282 - UTILITY DISK

ADBASE14:   Address Database Ver 1.4 - A dedicated address book program for keeping names and numbers. It has a upper limit of 400 addresses and saves its files in regular ASCII text.

CHEKBOOK: Chekbook Ver 1.14 - An aid in getting today's complicated checking account under control. All entries are automatically sorted by date so they may be entered in almost any order. The date when an item clears the bank is also entered. This date allows Chekbook to show not only the ''real'' balance for a given date but also what the bank thinks you have due to items that have, and have not cleared. Also the last date when there was an agreement between these two balances is calculated.

DCOPY36:   DCOPY, Ver 3.6 - The latest version of this disk utility. The program many disk operations, such as move or copy files, create or delete folders, and hide and unhide files. In addition, it has an extensive arcing and dearcing capability. The program goes with a shell program that gives it drop-down menus. This utility has undergone extensive revisions, 57 of them between Vers 1.91 and 3.6 which are detailed in the accompanying documentation file. It is therefore an valuable utility which is heavily supported and has stood the test of time. Also on Disk 271.

DEARC20:   DeArc Ver 2.0 - A program for both deARCing and deLZHing. Put any files you which to be uncompacted in the same directory as this program and run the program. All archive files of either type will be uncompressed into folders with the same name. You can choose to delete the original archive file or not. LHARC and ARC.TTP

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must also be in the same directory. These files are also included on the disk for your convenience.

TXTTODOC: This utility takes an ASCII file brought from the IBM or MAC, or just saved as ASCII by some other program for the ST, and converts it into a Word Writer ST or First Word Plus document.

DISK 283 - EDUCATIONAL DISK

KP_DEMO: KidPublisher Professional Ver 6.2 Demo - Does your kid think the ST is just a game machine? Help him harness the power of your ST with Kidpublisher Professional! The commercial program may be used to create posters, booklets, letters to Grandma, joke books, coloring books, school reports, cryptogram messages, or any document with both graphics and text! The save and load functions have been disabled in this demo version.

KV_HOUSE: About the House, A Children's Adventure - Be a butterfly and fly about the house exploring rooms you see. Examine items in the rooms. Surprises await you!

KV_ME2ND: Me Second Ver 2.0 (6/3/90) - A program in which various pictures can be arranged into stories. Pictures can be viewed single or double-sized. This program is packaged as a sequel to the original Me First. It contains an additional 24 stories including some involving simple addition and subtraction.

DISK 284 - GAME DISK

MAZE_EDT: Midimaze Editor Ver 1.3 - A program for creating mazes for Midimaze. Using it is similar to using a drawing program. A grid of small pixel boxes takes up the left portion of the screen. fill in various boxes to create your maze. Mazes may be dumped to the printer for viewing in addition to being saved to disk. This is the only official version of the Midimaze-Editor, licensed to Hybrid Arts Germany, but it is Public Domain.

MUMMY: Explore the tomb of the ancient Pharaoh Epthos. There are 4 conflicts awaiting one who sets about this adventure. First you will encounter the puzzle of the coffins. Second you will encounter the journey through the Taboo Caves. Third, there is the challenge of the Maze of Epthos. And finally, there is the confrontation with the Sphinx of Epthos. If you make it through

all of these chambers you will have outwitted the evil pharaoh and be allowed to record your name on the wall of the tomb, as the mummy of Epthos solemnly looks on. A Graphic adventure played with the mouse.

ORACLE: Ask the Oracle your question and watch is thinking about its answer.

PEANUT: Who Stole the Peanut Butter? - A graphic adventure in which you try to determine the culprit of the heinous crime. Choose from one of 11 fugitives from the Most Wanted List of peanut butter criminals by using clues about the description of the culprit.

SCRAM: Scrambled Eggspressions - A children's game that encourages use of reasoning and logic. Actually you adults can play too, if you can get some computer time from the kids! This 2 player game is based on and similar to those adult games that take a digitized picture, scramble it up, and then ask the player to put the picture back together again. Twenty-two cartoon faces are included, along with an editor to create your own or modify those included.

DISK 285 - THE MILATARI HALLOWEEN DISK

GRUSEL: An animated Halloween graphic and musical demo. Extremely well done. Watch the skeleton come out of coffin and do his dance. The sequence where he rolls his skull down his arm is particularly nice. For a demo of this size, it is quite lengthy, running about 3 to 4 minutes.

HALOWEEN: Included on this disk is a Printmaster Plus Icon file with 9 Halloween-theme icons. Also included is a picture in .TNY format with some Halloween clip art. Both medium and high resolution versions are on the disk.

GHOSTTWN: Ghost Town - You are a prospector searching for gold and adventure. Another prospector has told you a story of a fabulous mine and a richer ghost town nearby the mine. Dare you search for the treasure in spite of the rumors of strange noises, gunfights, and terrifying screams coming from there? A text adventure created with the Adventure Game Tool Toolkit. Also on Disk 237.

On Disk 284, is a long-awaited program dear to the hearts of many in our club, the Midimaze Editor. Any of you who have tried to create mazes with a word processor know difficult that is. This program truly makes it easy. Now having had Midimaze events at three GEN-

Bill Janutka

ST Supplementary Update

DISK 043 - TERMINAL EMULATORS (DSE ONLY)

This disk contains three very good terminal emulators for use with your modem and a fourth program to output a message when your modem answers the phone. All of the emulators have capture buffers and a number of automatic features.

HAGTRM33:   A GEM based emulators with VT52 capabilities.

VANTERM: Another GEM based VT52 emulator.

ST_TERM: A DOS based emulator with VT100 capabilities.

MINI_BBS: A phone answering utility that will send out a message when it answers the phone. It is meant for the BBS SysOp who has a system failure and wants to notify incoming callers.

DISK 044 PROGRAMMER'S UTILITIES (DSE ONLY)

CHNGSIZE: Changes the cluster size from 1024 bytes to 512 bytes on freshly formatted disks. This will usually allow an increase of about 10% in disk storage.

CONVERT: Converts binary data to hex format for inclusion into source files. The conversion can be in byte, word, or long format.

DISKEDIT: This is another disk sector editor with a lot of power. The instructions contain a good explanation of the workings of both the disk editor and the disks.

KE23:   The Kepco text editor is able to edit multiple files at one time. It has the capability of cutting and pasting from one file to another. It uses UNIX regular expression parsing and many single keystroke functions. It also features online help. It's quite a powerful editor.

PRHP16:   A file printing utility for use with the HP Deskjet and Deskjet+ printers.

RSUTIL: This program is used to display, compare, and convert GEM resource files.

DISK 045 SHEET 2.0 (DSE ONLY)

SHEET: Sheet V2.0 is a combination of spreadsheet and BASIC. The spreadsheet functions and commands make the BASIC interpreter handle data very easily and the BASIC interpreter makes the spreadsheet a lot more powerful than many other spreadsheet programs commercially available.

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CONs, we could use a little variety in Mazes to keep our old-hand customers on their toes. We've decided to encourage the creation of the needed new mazes. We're gonna have a little contest! It will take place at the December Christmas party. A prize will be awarded to the creater of the maze judged to be the best. The exact nature of that prize will have to be determined at a Special Events Committee meeting, but I'm sure we'll make it interesting! The winning maze and all "honorable mentions" will then be used at next year's GENCON. All those interested should therefore make sure they pick up Disk 284 at the October meeting.

MilAtari Ltd.
The Milwaukee Area
Atari Users Group
P.O. Box 14038
West Allis, WI
53214

David Glish
1020 Parkway Dr.
Brookfield WI 53005
Dec 90